



Child Labor Coalition

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The Honorable Tom Lantos
U.S. House of Representatives
2217 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515-0512

Dear Representative Lantos:

On behalf of the member organizations of the Child Labor Coalition (CLC), I thank you for your efforts to protect employed youth in the United States. The CLC is pleased to endorse your bill, Youth Worker Protection Act, which promotes safe and appropriate youth employment.

The Child Labor Coalition is a national group that works to protect the health, education, and safety of working minors and to end child labor exploitation in the U.S. and abroad. The CLC is comprised of more than 50 non-governmental organizations, reflecting educators, health groups, religious and women's groups, human rights groups, consumer groups, labor unions, and child labor advocates.

This bill provides several important updates to the Fair Labor Standards Act. Among these are the following:

- Equalizes protections for all working minors. No more will there be differing standards between agricultural and non-agricultural youth employment, which often confuses employers, parents, and youth.
- Sets reasonable hours of work. This bill promotes education remaining "job one" for youth in this country, which is best for our youth who will be shortly transitioning into the adult workforce and for our nation which must remain competitive in the global market.
- Updates hazards list. This bill incorporates recommendations made by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (2002) to better protect youth from hazardous equipment, occupations, and industries.

The CLC is pleased to endorse this bill and is committed to employing our resources to promote the bill's passage at the earliest time.

Sincerely,

DARLENE ADKINS
Coordinator

CLC Advocacy Members: A Minor Consideration; Alliance for Retired Americans; American Academy of Pediatrics; American Ethical Union; AFL-CIO; American Federation of School Administrators; American Federation of Teachers; American Public Health Association; Arizona Consumers Council; Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs; Calvert Group; Child Welfare League of America; Church of the Brethren; Church Women United; Coalition of Labor Union Women; Committee for Children; Communications Workers of America; Consumer Federation of America; Consumers First; Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO; Essential Information; Food and Allied Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO; Forgotten Children; General Federation of Women's Clubs; International Brotherhood of Teamsters; International Center on Child Labor and Education; International Initiative to End Child Labor; Jewish Labor Committee; Jewish Women International; Kids Campaign Against Child Labor; Labor Heritage Foundation; MANA, A National Latina Organization; Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns; National Association of Social Workers; National Child Labor Committee; National Consumers League; National Council of Catholic Women; National Education Association; National Parent-Teacher Association; New Ways to Work; RUGMARK Foundation USA; Service Employees International Union; The Consumer Alliance; The Crafts Center; Union Label & Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO; UNITE!; United Food and Commercial Workers International Union; United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society; United Methodist Church, Women's Division; University of Illinois, School of Social Work; Walden Asset Management; Youth Advocate Program International